NASA Project Management Challenge 2009

PROJECT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE 2009

Sixth Annual NASA Project Management Seminar

ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Leveraging Scheduling Productivity with Practical Scheduling Techniques

One of the key challenges facing professional schedulers today is the balancing act between time spent behind the computer terminal developing and maintaining project schedules and the time required to understand the overall goals of the project from the project office and individuals doing the work. On one hand, the available high-tech scheduling software available today continues to provide more and more functions for the scheduler but on the other hand requires more and more input; and requires a higher level of discipline to be exercised potentially negating any productivity gains. So while organizations try to leverage their perceived productivity gains by reducing scheduling resources to maintain their competitive edge; schedulers are being forced more than ever to look for ways to increase quantity without reducing quality.

This session discusses some of the ideas and concepts that I have learned over the past 22 years that helps simplify and speed up the schedule development and maintenance process which in turn should allow the project scheduler to spend less time behind the computer terminal and more time understanding the plan and helping the project stay focused on the critical path. Tool specific topics discussed here will deal mainly Microsoft software products. Also, general scheduling good practices topics will be discussed. So if you are a scheduling professional, work closely with a scheduler, or you would like to see more of your scheduler away from his or her computer terminal, this presentation may be for you.

William G. Paradis
Schedule Manager for the Global Precipitation Measurement Project
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Mr. Paradis is the Schedule Manager on the Global Precipitation Measurement Project (GPM) at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. His responsibilities include overall schedule development, critical path management, earned value analysis, and schedule reporting for the project.

In addition to his current assignments, he continues to design and construct a scheduling tool kit web-site concept that will help share schedule management knowledge to all the schedulers at NASA GSFC. Other activities include supporting where possible, the development of an EVMS system at NASA/GSFC.

Prior to joining Computer Sciences corporation in 2005, Mr. Paradis has held numerous planning and scheduling positions with other government contractors since 1986; supporting the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, and NASA.

Bill has a MAS degree in Business from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. He has been awarded many exceptional performance awards including the

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Northrop Grumman Electronic Sensor Sector's President's Leadership Award in 2001 and 2003 for his planning and scheduling work on the F-16 V(9) and the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) programs.

Mr. Paradis resides in Fallston, Maryland with his three children and wife Julienne.